

Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

www.spangdahlem.af.mil

Nov. 10, 2006

News Briefs

Flu shots available

The 52nd FW hosts a one week mass flu vaccination program for all active duty members Monday through Nov. 17 in building 217 (deployment processing center). All wing personnel are required to report between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. For details, call the immunizations clinic at 452-8382.

Software for home users

People can now download Norton Antivirus and Spyware removal software for their home computers free of charge. For more details, call a computer systems administrator or visit https://www.itfgno.mil/antivirus/home_use.htm.

Holiday mailing deadlines

The Eifel Post Offices recommends mailing packages stateside by Nov. 20 for space available mail; Dec. 4 for parcel airlift mail; Dec. 11 for priority mail and first class letters and cards; and Dec. 18 for express mail service. People should visit the Spangdahlem AB or Bitburg Annex post office for details.

RoadCon information

During inclement weather, Sabers should stay aware of current road conditions. Road condition color codes are: Green, normal operations for all vehicles; Amber, road conditions are hazardous and people should exercise caution due to slush, snow, ice patches and decreased visibility; Red, road conditions are extremely hazardous and government vehicles should not be operated unless necessary for mission requirements; and Black, driving cannot be conducted safely and vehicles should only be operated in emergencies. For details, call 452-COPS (2677), listen to AFN radio on 105.1 FM or 1143 AM, visit the Internet at www.spangdahlem.af.mil or watch out for road conditions on AFN Satellite Channel 23 for off-base residents and AFN Prime Atlantic for on-base residents.

Accident report

Team Eifel was involved in nine minor accidents last week and four major accidents. Driving too fast for conditions caused three crashes. One was at an unknown location, while the others were on L-11 near Bettenfeld and at the exit near A-60 and A-1. The fourth major wreck happened in Badem on Dudeldorfer Strasse when the driver failed to yield the right of way. (Information courtesy of Harold Kotsch, 52nd Security Forces Squadron).

Division II champions!

Check out photos from "Bitburg Barons nab European II title" on Page 8.

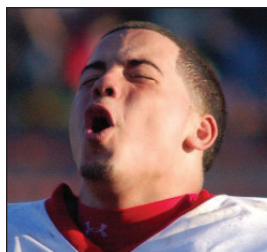


Photo by Airman 1st Class Josie Kemp

Motivational speaker

Tech. Sgt. Ken Gentner, 52nd Security Forces Squadron training NCOIC, encourages an Airman to stay low during a low crawling drill at an Expeditionary Combat Skills training here Nov. 2. The course is a 19-hour course covering classroom and field training. Students learn the basics: how to react to direct fire or mortars; call in a report of enemy activity; use their M-16 rifle as a defensive weapon in close quarters; search a vehicle for bombs and contraband; challenge and neutralize unidentified individuals; and how body armor works, as well as improvised explosive device facts and field sanitation.

Spang first in USAFE to appoint AFSO 21 manager at wing-level

Photo and story by Senior Airman Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Spangdahlem Air Base is the first base in U.S. Air Forces in Europe to appoint a full-time Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st century program manager.

The overarching goals here are to implement a change in culture and the way people think and do their jobs, said Chief Master Sgt. Terry Norris, 52nd Fighter Wing AFSO 21 program manager. The base also strives to be self-sufficient in conducting and achieving AFSO 21 events independently.

"AFSO 21 needs to be more than just a buzz word," he said. "We have been on the fast track with AFSO 21 since August, and our goal is to see our program become a benchmark for the rest of the Air Force."

In a letter to Airmen earlier this year, Michael W. Wynne, Secretary of the Air Force, said that AFSO 21 is a dedicated effort to maximize value and minimize waste in our operations.

Chief Norris agreed and said the wing is looking to use LEAN tools about 80 percent of the time, and Six Sigma, Theory of Constraints and Business Process Re-engineering tools the other 20 percent. The LEAN tools deal primarily with the identification and elimination of waste and non-value added activities. The other tools are used to eliminate defects, constraints and improve overall processes. These tools help managers find better ways of streamlining processes to create a more efficient work environment.

LEANing forward

In February, the 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight conducted a LEAN event, and its goal was to increase engine production, increase average time on wing; and remove waste in production flow time.

Maintenance leadership reevaluated their set up and eliminated non-value added movement, resulting in a new layout of the work area and moving toolboxes closer to maintainers and becoming an assembly line process. These changes cut down on time spent moving between what was being repaired and equipment that was being used.



Chief Master Sgt. Terry Norris, 52nd Fighter Wing Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st century program manager, is the wing's point of contact for all AFSO 21-related issues and concerns. His appointment by wing leadership is the U.S. Air Forces in Europe's first full-time AFSO 21 program manager at base level.

Bringing up ideas

"One of my biggest challenges is to assist our leadership in educating the base populace," the chief said. "There are people here who are not really sure what AFSO 21 can do for them, and our goal is to give an AFSO 21 introductory briefing to all personnel assigned here. We want Airmen to bring their ideas forward."

Maj. Timothy Hess, 52nd Maintenance Operations Squadron commander, said people usually get the best ideas from those who have a personal vested interest in improving the way the "system" works because it will ultimately make their job easier to do or manage.

"It's important to know that we usually don't get it 100 percent right the first time," Major Hess said. "It is not uncommon to have to go through the same AFSO 21 event five or six times before the approved solution is realized. Even then, it's a continual process because external and internal factors are constantly changing."

See AFSO 21, Page 4

RESCON Watch

CHARLIE

3 DUIs/ARIs in the Last 30 Days

Days since last DUI/ARI: 6

Rank of last DUI/ARI: technical sergeant
Squadrons of last DUI/ARI:

52nd Communications Squadron

332 Airmen's lives were saved by the Airmen
Against Drunk Driving Program since

Jan. 1, 2006. When going out and your plan falls
through call AADD for a ride, at 06565-61-2233.

Phase II exercise

Team Eifel practices for upcoming AEF deployments, combat scenarios



(Right) Sergeant Stallcup responds to an exercise situation in a vehicle. (Above) Senior Airman Morgan Duty, 52nd SFS, lays on the ground with his weapon in a defensive position.



(Left) Senior Airman Douglas Washington, 52nd CES, pretends to have a head wound during the exercise. (Above) Exercise players react to a situation while providing Self-Aid Buddy Care to an "injured" Airman.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Raymond Mills

Airman 1st Class Travis Ridgley, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, plays a victim during the Phase II exercise SABER CROWN Tuesday. Staff Sgt. Amie Stallcup, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, is a first-responder on-scene at the scenario and calls for back-up.

America Recycles Day kicks off Nov. 15

Sabers encouraged to reduce, reuse, recycle

By Caitlin Schwartz
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs intern

Nov. 15 is a day encouraging Americans around the world to recycle. "America Recycles Day" was first celebrated in 1997 and each year has had a growing success in communities, and individuals renew their commitment to preserving the planet's resources.

The average American produces about seven and a half pounds of waste each day, which adds up to roughly one and a half tons a year, said Arno Walerius, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Hazardous Waste Program Manager and Recycling Program manager.

He suggests that one way people can help reduce this number is to keep in mind the three R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

"For example, that means buying products that aren't individually packaged, and people should use reusable containers to minimize the packaging required," said Capt. James Gingras, 52nd Fighter Wing Environmental Flight chief. "Fill empty water bottles with high quality tap water so that you don't have to keep buying more, and use the yellow

bags provided by local refuse contractors to recycle your packaging or bring your on-base recyclable material to any of the labeled recycling containers."

"America Recycles Day" reminds people that the three little arrows of a recycling logo indicate products that people should take the time to separate into paper, plastic and metal.

Recycled material does not just go back to packaging material, but can be used in making park benches, surfboards, books and other everyday objects that people are often times not aware of.

Sabers are encouraged to join the "Win the War Against Waste" campaign and take time to throw away recyclables in their proper containers. The more people recycle, the less trash goes to landfills, and the fewer raw materials have to be used which saves lots of energy and helps preserve natural habitats.

Here at Spangdahlem Air Base, we are committed to preserving the environment through, in part, offering comprehensive recycling services, Mr. Walerius said.



Air Force public affairs adopting new Internet-based news-delivery method

By Senior Master Sgt. Terry Somerville
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO -- The ongoing reduction in the number of Air Force people will mean changes in the way people get Air Force news.

Public affairs staff members, who produce newspapers at most Air Force installations, are shifting their focus for news delivery to the World Wide Web. Printed newspapers will still be published at most bases, but responsibility will move to civilian publishers.

"A Web-based information-delivery system provides a number of benefits," said Col. Michelle Johnson, director of Air Force Public Affairs. Among them: posting news releases in real time; providing access to home-station news from deployed locations; and using the same delivery system at home and while deployed, the colonel said.

The new policy is being put into place over the next month. Air Force Public Affairs officials said guidelines for unit public affairs offices will be released soon.

A reduction of 200 positions in the 800-strong public affairs career field drives the change, but news will actually get to Air Force people faster under the new policy.

Public Affairs staffers and other news producers will instantly post stories, photographs and artwork to their unit's public Web site rather than waiting for a weekly publication to hit the streets.

"With the new Web management system, we can post content to Air Force Web sites within eight minutes," said Chief Master Sgt. Janice Conner, the Air Force Public Affairs enlisted career field manager. "This

decreases the time between when an article is complete and when it's released from three to 10 days to within minutes."

Air Force newspapers have been published at many bases for more than 50 years. Civilian publishers print many of them under contract, using Air Force-generated content and keeping the advertising revenue.

A civilian publisher can continue to produce a newspaper for a base, but no longer under contract with the Air Force. The publisher will pull content from the base's public Web site and other sources.

The policy was developed by a working group using Air Force Smart Operations 21 principles. The group was chartered by Air Force Public Affairs to determine the best way to deliver Air Force news in view of personnel reductions.

The group determined that each Air Force newspaper cost around 40 man-hours per week in page design and approval, making newspaper production a target for work savings. Eliminating the weekly product would allow a news staff to devote time to producing more and better news coverage, the group concluded.

"The beauty of base-level online news is the timeliness and worldwide accessibility of information," Chief Conner said. "Combine the ability to merge the multimedia capabilities of photographs, streaming video, audio news and features, plus graphics and links to other Air Force features, and we have a true multimedia experience all in one source -- the wing commander's No. 1 internal-information tool."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Taylor

Top Saber Performer

Name: Staff Sgt. Joseph Schescke
Unit: 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron
Duty title: F-16 Avionics Intermediate Section team member
Hometown: Longmont, Colo.
Years in Service: Five years
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: Sergeant Schescke is normally a team member in the AIS. He had a stellar performance filling in as swing shift production supervisor, AIS team leader and sole AIS technician at home station during a recent air expeditionary force 2 deployment to Qatar. The role of production supervisor is normally a technical sergeant position, and subsequent roles are manned by at least two separate technicians. Due to a manning issue, he was left with the daunting tasks of "getting it done" when duty called. During this period, he coordinated the constant downrange requests for data, equipment and training inputs. He maintained the production of home station line replaceable units and test equipment serviceability so the mission back home did not miss a beat. Sergeant Schescke fixed 15 of 29 units at a 52 percent RTS rate. His tireless efforts deserve recognition since these actions are normally accomplished by at least three technicians. He truly embodies the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. His commitment and work ethic are unparalleled.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: I volunteered in tearing down during recent 52nd Maintenance Group change of command; I completed a speech course toward my Community College of the Air Force degree, maintaining a cumulative 3.8 GPA. I also completed in-resident seven-level course training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

What do you do for fun? I enjoy traveling, especially here in Europe. Recently, I went to battle scenes at Bastogne, Belgium.

What do you like most about being stationed here? I like all the travel opportunities.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? Improved customer service processes in and around Spangdahlem AB.

Scholarly fun



Photo by Nick Anderson

Sierra Lawrence, daughter of Senior Master Sgt. Shona Lawrence, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; Erin Elbel, daughter of Senior Master Sgt. Roberta Wagner, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron; and Nichole Griep, daughter of Maj. Stephen Griep, 52nd Medication Operations Squadron, have been named Commended Students in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 commended students throughout the nation are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. These students are placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2007 competition by taking the 2005 Preliminary SAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Congratulations National Stamp Collection Month Winners!

"Congratulations to Spangdahlem and Bitburg middle and elementary schools for making this year's National Stamp Collecting Month Contest a huge success. There were many great pieces of artwork submitted for judging and the imagination and ability of each student was remarkable. On behalf of the 52nd Communications Squadron Post Offices, I would like to extend a very special thanks to all of the participants and all others involved in making the National Stamp Collecting Month Contest festivities a first-class event. People can visit the post offices to see this year's winning submissions."

-- Capt. Thomas Avilucea, 52nd CS Support Systems Flight commander

Eifel Salutes

52nd Maintenance Group

Leading the way ... **Airman Timothy Girourd** has excelled in his upgrade training by completing 55 percent of it in less than five months.

52nd Mission Support Group

Stamp of Approval -- **Senior Master Sgt. Debbie Pietrowski** and her team's extraordinary effort resulted in unprecedented success -- during the **Bitburg Post Office** inspection with seven of eight areas rated EXCELLENT. On the other side, **Spangdahlem AB Post Office** watered the eyes of USAFE inspectors -- seven of eight areas rated OUTSTANDING. Arguably the best USAFE Post Office rating in years, if not of all time. Got Gas? Pumpers of the Month for the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Flight are **Airman David Brinkley** and **Senior Airmen Timothy Colamarino, Maghann Quinhoes** and **Nathaniel Dumas**.

52nd Medical Group

Seek! Attack! Destroy! Effectively describes the effort and hard work of **Tech**.



Sgt Lorena Woolard and **Staff Sgt. Stephanie McDonald** as they fit tested more than 70 people from various squadrons in the wing with respirators that protect against harmful vapors. Their hard work keeps our Sabers healthy and happy! **Maj. (Dr.) Susan Swayne** and **Ms. Sara Villarreal** of the Educational Developmental Intervention Services clinic provided top-notch pediatric and Occupational Therapy evaluation and treatment services to families in Mozambique.

Way to go!

A special thanks to **Cpts. George Sconyers** and **Diane Weed** for making this year's Air Force Ball a resounding success!!! Shooting to the top ... **Senior Airman Joseph Cipolla** and **Mr. Nathan Kinnaird** represented Spangdahlem AB at the USAFE paintball tournament and came back with a first-place finisher. **Zeth McNeal**, a senior at Bitburg High School, was named the winner of the National Disability Month contest.

We Salute you Team Eifel! Kudos to you all!

(Compiled by Tech. Sgt. Pamela Anderson, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pamela Anderson

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Traffic Management Flight cargo movement element

Number of members: 19

A brief description of unit responsibilities: Plans and organizes traffic management activities, and receives packs and processes assets received from 22 base organizations and 17 geographically-separated units for world-wide movement or storage. Prepares budget estimates for materials and equipment. Segregates items requiring special handling. Receives and processes material using the cargo movement operating system to ensure in-transit visibility of all assets via military and commercial carriers. They make transportation determinations based on weight and dimensions of cargo, and receive packs and certify all hazardous and classified material shipments to be moved by surface and air. They also ensure convoy, hazardous, or oversized permits are acquired before movement.

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? The team enables the wing organizations to deploy cargo via all modes of transportation to meet required in-place dates. Processes equipment for shipment to Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office ensuring timely delivery and allowing Department of Defense to recoup valuable tax dollars on resale. Processes outbound Mission Capable and high priority aircraft parts enabling 24-hour war readiness capability. Instructs "Preparation and Packaging of Hazardous Materials" training and manages the Reusable Container programs for the wing and GSUs.

Team's other contributions throughout the year? Processed and transported all cargo for Tactical Leadership Program in Denmark and Belgium, Brilliant Arrow, AEF 1/2, Steadfast Jaguar and Viper Lance deployments -- resulting in accomplishment of 542 exercise sorties and more than 830 flying hours. They processed 49 Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility engines allowing 100 percent delivery on time within area of responsibility in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Receipted for, performed all customs clearances, packed and processed 4,760 pieces of lean logistics cargo weighing 388 tons to world-wide destinations.

Army lingo in the Air Force ... a new way of life?

52nd LRS Airmen share stories of training, convoy duty with Army supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom

By Senior Airman Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

(Editor's note: This is the first story in a three-part series on deployments, redeployments and the services and programs offered by the Airman and Family Readiness Center).

The term "HUA" erupted from his mouth in a response to everything ... even after returning back to an air base where it was considered a foreign term.

He spent nearly one-quarter of his Air Force enlistment working with his Army peers downrange -- learning Army terminology and weapons systems. This deployment was in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a convoy driver for the 828th Battalion October 2005 through June 2006.

Senior Airman Joshua Hite, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operator, deployed for the first time with eight colleagues from Spangdahlem Air Base more than one year ago.

"I had only two weeks notice before I deployed because I was a replacement for someone who was injured," Airman Hite said. "I had no idea what to expect. I just tried to prepare myself for the worst. I kept thinking that I was going to an Air Force camp on an Army post that was named for two Airmen who were killed doing the same mission we were about to go and do."

This mission was to drive convoys and escort semi-tractor trailers throughout Iraq; stopping at nearly every base in the area of responsibility, with each mission lasting anywhere from 10-16 days.

Preparation for desert duty

The nine-person LRS team from Spangdahlem AB deployed to Camp Bullis in San Antonio and Fort Hood, Okla., where they participated in a Basic Combat Convoy Course and live fire training. They learned Combat Life Saver skills, and became proficient at giving an IV and performing CPR on their battle buddy; practiced firing the .50 caliber machine gun, .249 squad automatic weapon and M4 weapon systems.

They also set up landing zones for medical evacuations, performed mine sweeps and improvised explosive device recognition training, and learned hand-to-hand combat techniques.

"I think the training was helpful to start getting us into the mindset that we were about to be placed in a war zone ... on the ground ... outside the wire on a daily basis driving the roads of Iraq everywhere from Fallujah to Baghdad to Mosul," Airman Hite said. "It was definitely necessary to learn the weapon systems that few Airmen ever get to



Courtesy photos

Then Airman 1st Class Joshua Hite, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operator, performs a pre-maintenance vehicle inspection on his truck the day before heading out on the road for a convoy in Iraq. Airman Hite deployed with fellow LRS Sabers to support Operation Iraqi Freedom October 2005 through June 2006. While deployed, he was a convoy driver for the Army's 828th Battalion.

fire in their careers, as well as learning the Army terminology."

IED attacks, convoy duty

Staff Sgt. Michael Dickon, 52nd LRS dispatch operations, was the lead vehicle commander during the deployment, and said his main job was picking routes, accessing risks and communicating with forward elements of other convoys, outposts and checkpoints.

At home station, Sergeant Dickon coordinates vehicle requirements for the base ranging from distinguished visitors and dignitaries, to scheduling tractor trailers and crash recovery vehicles.

"It was definitely an exciting deployment and something we normally don't do as an Air Force member," Sergeant Dickon said. "I certainly have a newfound application and respect for our brothers in arms. With previous deployments, I have had dangers like mortars and rockets, but nothing compared to what I saw and did working for the Army."

The sergeant said he felt fortunate, yet unfortunate all at the same time while in the AOR. His convoy had many attacks consisting of small arms attacks, ambushes and IED attacks.

One IED exploded about 10 feet away from Sergeant Dickon's truck while his convoy was stopped outside the Baghdad International Airport.

"When it exploded, shrapnel and debris hit my truck and luckily, the armor held and no major damage was done to the truck at

all," he said. "We were lucky that so many attacks did not cause a lot of serious injuries; unlucky in the fact that in one attack we did lose two of our fellow Airmen from Elmendorf (Air Force Base, Alaska)."

Pride in service

When Airman Hite returned home to Spangdahlem AB, he felt the experience matured him, and at 19, he decided he wanted to stay in the Air Force for the long haul, and not for just a four year enlistment.

He initially joined the Air Force because, "It was the job that was going to get me out of the house the quickest."

He knew that the work he and his Air Force colleagues were doing in Iraq was helping others and served a purpose.

"We all take a great deal of pride in the superb work our Airmen are doing downrange," said Maj. Dana Pelletier, 52nd LRS commander. "This particular mission is exceptional in that (the team) spent so much time on the road, facing the dangers throughout the AOR."

Standing up Air Force units and working alongside the Army is a new mission the Air Force has executed for the past three years.

In addition to convoy duty, LRS Airmen are regularly called to fill in lieu of taskings in supply as well as with provisional reconstruction teams and training teams that are helping build up the capabilities of the indigenous forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, Major Pelletier said.



Airman Hite, Airman 1st Class Kory Weaver, and Staff Sgt. Tina Irvine, 52nd LRS vehicle operators, deployed to Iraq together to support Army convoy operations. The three stand in front of their Humvee prior to departure for a mission.

Adjustment back home

"The thing that stuck out the most when I got back was how green everything was here in Germany and how fresh the air smelled," Airman Hite said.

With so many changes taking place at home station, and numerous life-changing events experienced while deployed, it can take some time to readjust to life back in the Eifel.

The A&FRC recognizes the stressors associated with deployments to not only Airmen, but to their families as well. They now offer a two-day re-integration program to help ease that sometimes difficult transition redeployers may face.

Although the inception of the re-integration program is fairly new and Airman Hite and Sergeant Dickon were not able to participate in the program, they both agreed that the people back at Spangdahlem AB were supportive and welcomed them home with open arms.

The briefings and the classes offered upon their redeployment home helped Airman Hite and his wife, Melanie, get back to the normal swing of things again. However, Sergeant Dickon noticed a lot of new faces at work and many of his friends had left while he was away.

"These deployments are a tremendous challenge, but it makes the success that much greater," Major Pelletier said. "That's why we are loud and proud when we yell out, 'LRS ... Hell Yes!'"

The nine Sabers from 52nd LRS who deployed in the team were: **Tech. Sgt. Daryl Maniscalco; Staff Sgts. Tina Irvine, David Bittner** and Michael Dickon; **Senior Airman Jason Moody; Airmen 1st Class Patrick Leclair, Kory Weaver, Richard Didio** and Joshua Hite.

AFSO 21

Continued from Page 1

Each AFSO 21 event needs to be re-addressed periodically to ensure the end result is still meeting the desired goal, and the wing's AFSO 21 program manager is available to help in that process.

"I am here to help conduct training, and be a resource for every commander on base to aid in the successful implementation of AFSO 21 in their unit," Chief Norris said. "We want to conduct at least five events with one at each group and one over-

all event selected by the wing, and through these events is where people will learn first hand the limitless potential of what AFSO 21 can do for them and their unit."

Planning stages

The 52nd Maintenance Group and 52nd Operations Group plan to take the schedulers from both groups and put them in a centralized work place to increase communication and maximize coordination efforts.

"Currently, they work in different buildings so a lot of time is wasted tracking the right people down when trying to coordinate flying schedule pinpoints," Major Hess said. "However, it's still in the planning stages and coordination is still taking place."

The medical group also plans to review their preventative

health and post-deployment assessments; the wing is looking at administrative, personnel and communication issues that may result from the cutbacks; maintenance group is re-evaluating their phase inspections; the operations group along with the Joint Fires Center of Excellence is conducting varsity-level training; and the mission support group is streamlining their vehicle maintenance processes.

"The long term goal of AFSO 21 is to change a culture. It is to arm every military and civilian Air Force member with the tools they need to recognize processes and to make them as efficient as possible," Chief Norris said. "It is a means that will help ensure that the U.S. Air Force remains the most powerful air force the world has ever known -- well into the 21st century."

Tell the Air Force story... it's your story to tell

By Lt. Col. Ted Davis
325th Air Control Squadron commander

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.
(AFPN) -- The American public loves a great story. With that said, the Air Force has that great story and it's your story to tell.

Not surprising to anyone in this day and age as we are fighting a war on terrorism, there are great stories in the making every day, not only in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Pacific theater and a number of countries in Africa, but right here at home.

As amazing as some of these stories are, and as proud as they make us feel to be Americans in the profession of combat arms, they make up only a portion of the Air Force story.

The need to get the Air Force story out to the general public is so important that Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne along with Air Force Chief of Staff General T. Michael Moseley recently created the Office of Strategic Communication to help the American public better understand our daily successes and challenges. Brig. Gen. Erwin Lessel III, who leads the Secretary of the Air Force's Office of Strategic Communication states, "Every Airman can become an Air Force spokesperson at any time."

Airmen are engaged at every level of this conflict in every theater across the globe, and sometimes to a fault, we humbly go about our business taking for granted what we do. We need to do a better job making our entire story known to the American public both on a national level and at the local level.

"By nature, we are quiet warriors," said General Lessel. "We do not beat our chests and talk about what we do. It's going to take a

"We need to tell what we actually do, what purpose that specialty serves and what that brings to bear on the battlespace,"

-- Lt. Col. Ted Davis
325th Air Control Squadron

culture change, but it helps the public better understand the Air Force when they hear from the Airmen themselves."

As difficult as it may be for us to recognize our terrific accomplishments, and as humble as we are sometimes, when the American public gets an insight into what we do, they are simply amazed. They are amazed at what we take for granted, because the things we do in many ways are indeed amazing.

Maj. Gen. Scott Mayes, commander of 1st Air Force, said it best some time ago when he was a guest speaker at a 325th Fighter Wing Warrior Call. To make his point, he used the setting of a high school reunion to illustrate to us how important our work is and how much the American public wants to hear about it.

He told a room full of Air Force officers how, when compared to many of the jobs and occupations our high school classmates have gone on to be successful at in the private sector, it is our achievements and adventures as Airmen that captivate our school friends and hold their attention. As noble as their entrepreneurial successes might be, and as financially well off as they may become, it is the Airman who defends the nation both at home and abroad who everyone wants to catch up with and hear from.

When I say we need to know our own story as individuals, what this means is we should be able to tell our civilian friends and neighbors about what we do personally in the Air

Force and how our roles and responsibilities play into the bigger picture of our squadron, wing and greater Air Force mission. We need to tell what we actually do, what purpose that specialty serves and what that brings to bear on the battlespace.

If the Air Force story can be summed up by "payload, effects and reach" then there must be a lot of detail supporting it. That's where we come in.

One of the best things about being in the Air Force is that every one of us can clearly state, without exception, that we are a part of America's air dominance force. From there, each of us should be able to trace back to our individual specialties and duty titles and explain how we contribute to that honorable distinction.

Whether assigned to the a fighter squadron or one of the tenant units, every one of us is either fighting the war on terrorism directly or feeding that fight. We must learn to articulate the facts to those not versed in "Air Force speak" and welcome the opportunities to do so, while also recognizing that sometimes we tell that story in ways we don't even realize.

Our story is told not only in our words, but in our deeds and appearance. Sometimes we tell the Air Force story not by standing in front of a thoughtful audience, but by our appearance, actions and deeds in the community.

One small example of how this works is when we go off base. Whether we realize it or not, something as simple as going off base to

have lunch creates a forum for the public to form its own opinion of the Air Force story. Off base, like on base, we are constantly in the spotlight, being watched with every move we make. The key point is that we are being watched by the very people we swore to protect and defend when we took the oath of office.

How we wear the uniform, how we behave in public and even how we drive going to and from home all speak volumes about the Air Force story. It illustrates our discipline as individuals and members of a select group of professionals in that respected profession of combat arms.

Wearing the uniform while driving a car proudly adorned with "I'm in the Air Force" insignia automatically identifies us as Airmen. By following the basic traffic rules in a courteous manner, we send a message that our Air Force is one of respectable Airmen from every demographic of American society and walk of life, and that we are not only guarding freedom, but we are also good neighbors and citizens.

We all know how great our Air Force is. The public hears about the success stories that get publicized in the open media, but those stories don't always tell the larger Air Force story.

Don't be so humble that you don't recognize how great you are as an active duty Airman, Guardsman, Reservist, Air Force civilian or contractor, and don't take for granted your personal day-to-day routine. Truth be told, it is actually very interesting to the American public. And don't assume that the American public isn't anxiously watching and listening to find out more about this greatness.

The public enjoys a great story. Learn the Air Force story and willingly tell it. Tell the Air Force story. Tell your story!

USAFE leaders send Veterans Day message

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) -- The following is a joint message from Gen. Tom Hobbins, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Gary G. Coleman, U.S. Air Forces in Europe command chief master sergeant.

The conclusion of World War I -- "the war to end all wars" -- compelled President Woodrow Wilson to set aside a special day of remembrance known as Armistice Day, which later evolved into Veterans Day in honor of American veterans of all wars.

It was to be a day "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the

"Each time, their sacrifices helped us to emerge stronger and smarter to face future challenges,"

-- Gen. Tom Hobbins,
USAFE commander and
Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman,
USAFE command master sergeant.

victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations ..."

On this day we reflect on the freedom our veterans have secured for us in Europe, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War and a Gulf War. Each time, their sacrifices helped us to emerge stronger and

smarter to face future challenges.

Today, our Airmen, Marines, Soldiers and Sailors are engaged in the Global War on Terrorism. They face yet another form of tyranny that we know will confront our nation for many Veterans Days to come.

Human costs will lie ahead until victory is once again ours. They will join the more than 54,000 Airmen who have died in combat to grant us peace and security. Honor them by spending time with a veteran, visiting a war memorial, or just reading historical material.

Enjoy your holiday safely, you deserve it for you ensure freedom's future. Chief Coleman and I are proud to serve with you.

Native American Heritage Month onth Spotlight

Unit: 52nd Communications Squadron
Duty title: Graphics illustrator
Hometown: Henryetta, Okla.
Years in service: Two
Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Airman Morgan is a Community College of the Air Force representative and contributor. She also volunteered at the base haunted house and is assisting with the winter bazaar.
Tribal affiliation: Creek (Muskogee)
How did your family celebrate your heritage while you were growing up: We celebrated our heritage through cultural dances.
What are you most proud of about your heritage: I am most proud that through out the years we have not lost our cultural traditions.
What is one cultural stereotype you wish you could eliminate: The stereotype I wish I could eliminate is that we still live in teepees.



Airman 1st Class
LaRhesa Morgan



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Capt. Diane Weed.....Public Affairs chief
Tech. Sgt. Pamela Anderson.....PA NCOIC
Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore.....Chief of internal
Senior Airman Eydie Sakura.....Editor
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Caitlin Schwartz.....Intern

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Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office staff. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.



Col. Darryl Roberson

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

- DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
- Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- To PA in building 23.
- Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Sortie Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	270	12	-30
23FS	372	56	+6
81FS	346	52	-3

*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Nov. 6

Courtesy of the 52nd Operations Support Squadron
Plans and Scheduling Section

Editor's Note: Submit "Community" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil. Call the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office Internal Information Section at 452-5244 for more information.

Airman's Attic volunteers

Volunteers are needed to work Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m. at the Airman's Attic. For more information, call Else Wingert at 452-6422.

All Eifel school news

- ♦ Parent Teacher Conference Day takes place Nov. 17.
- ♦ All five Eifel Schools close for winter break Dec. 21 through Jan. 5. Classes resume Jan. 8.

BMS news

- For more information on PTSA Bitburg Middle School events, e-mail mary.marschand@eu.dodea.edu.
- ♦ Family chili dinner is Thursday from 5-7 p.m.
 - ♦ Harvest dance is Thursday from 6-9 p.m.
 - ♦ Mentors and volunteers are needed at BMS during seminar from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Seminar class is held every other day tutors are needed in language arts, social studies, algebra, mathematics 7 and 8, science and German. For more information, call Crystal Bartels at 452-9310 or e-mail crystal.bartels@eu.dodea.edu.

Commissary hours

The Bitburg Annex and Spangdahlem Commissaries are open regular hours during Veterans Day.

Education opportunities

The Top 3 will award two \$100 scholarships to technical sergeants and below who are enrolled in courses in the coming term based on an essay submission. In addition, four \$75 first book grants are available for senior airmen and below who sign up for their first college class. The submission deadline is Wednesday. For more information, visit the Top 3 education committee Web site at <http://intranet/WingSites/ProfOrgs/Top3/Docs/WebPages/education.asp>.

Fisher House donations

The Pitsenbarger Airmen Leadership School is running a donations drive for the Landstuhl Fisher House. Donate paper towels, toilet paper, disposable plates and utensils, cleaners and more at the Bitburg Annex Commissary. Food items cannot be accepted. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Eric Ozburn at 452-9455 or 06575-903362.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephanie Sawyer

Acting the part

Chantal Strong-DePauw, playing the role of Genevieve, defends Merlene, played by Brynnley Roth, from Brigans, played by David Okulski. The children were actors in the Bitburg Middle School production of "The Smartest Woman in the Kingdom" Tuesday.

Family Child Care

The Family Child Care Programs offers licensing to base personnel who are interested in providing child care from their homes. For information about how to become a licensed FCC provider, call Liz Pindel at 452-9022.

Food handler's training

A mandatory food handler's supervisor's training class presented by public health takes place Monday at 5 p.m., Thursday at noon and Nov. 17 at 8 p.m.

Give Parents a Break

Give Parents a Break is a program, compliments of the Air Force Aid Society, designed to provide free child care on select days during stressful times. The next session is Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Child Development Center. Reservations are required and paperwork must be received by Thursday. For reservation guidelines, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 452-6422.

Red Cross training

The American Red Cross offers a first aid and CPR course Nov. 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost of the course is \$25. For more information or to sign up for the course before the day of the event, call 452-9440 or 06565-61-9440.

SMS news

The Spangdahlem Middle School celebrates American Education Week 2006 Sunday through Nov. 18. with the following events:

- ♦ Enjoy lunch with your child Monday through Nov. 17. An RSVP with menu request to laurie.combs@eu.dodes.edu.
- ♦ Visit the PTSA Book Fair Monday

through Nov. 17.

- ♦ Buy a Gobble Gram Monday through Nov. 17. For more information, e-mail kim.shock@eu.dodea.edu.

- ♦ Volunteer to chaperone the AVID Dance Nov. 17 from 6:30-9 p.m. by e-mailing judifrein@eu.dodea.edu.

Talent show

The King Citadel Military Lodge 163 in conjunction with Club Eifel presents the Fourth Annual Apollo Night Talent Show at Club Eifel tonight, doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Advance tickets cost \$7 and \$10 at the door. For more information, call Shawn Huggins at 452-6306 or 0175-683-2028.

Winter Bazaar volunteers

The Community Center is hosting the 2006 Winter Bazaar at Spangdahlem AB Nov. 24-25 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Nov. 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Skelton Fitness Center. Vendors will be selling furniture, wine, antiques, pottery, rugs and more. Volunteers are needed to set up and assist with the event, those who volunteer Nov. 23 receive a free Thanksgiving dinner. To volunteer, call Kim McElfresh at 452-7381

VITA volunteers

The legal office and tax center seeks volunteers to provide tax assistance to the base. Volunteers receive free training and certification by the IRS. A three-day advanced training course takes place Dec. 6 and a four-day newcomers training course begins Dec. 11. The volunteer deadline is Nov. 22. For more information or to register, call the legal office at 452-6796.

Chapel Services

Spangdahlem AB

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Saturday, 5 p.m.
- ♦ Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
- ♦ Sunday, religious education, 9:45 a.m. (building 139)
- ♦ Monday - Thursday, 11:45 a.m.

Protestant

- ♦ Sunday, traditional service at 10:30 a.m., Korean service at 1 p.m. and Sunday Night Live service at 5 p.m.

Bitburg Annex

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Monday, 8:30 a.m.

Protestant

- ♦ Sunday, Liturgical service at 8:15 a.m., Contemporary service at 9:30 a.m. and Gospel service at 1 p.m.

Happenings

- ♦ Discover, an interfaith dialogue group aimed at providing an environment for people to discuss their thoughts and feelings on faith, philosophy and more, meets Nov. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Education Center testing room. For more information, call Senior Airman Matthew Hentrich at 0160-1000-875.

For more information about Jewish, Islamic, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or other faith needs, call the chapel at 452-6711/6281.

THE URBAN COMEDY TOUR
FEATURING 'ALMOST FAMOUS' STANDUP COMEDIANS

CLUB EIFEL BALLROOM
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30PM

NOV 16

ADVANCE TICKETS:
MEMBERS • \$15
NON MEMBERS • \$20

TICKETS AT THE DOOR:
ONLY 150 AVAILABLE. BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!
MEMBERS • \$20
NON MEMBERS • \$25

Club Eifel
AIR FORCE SERVICES
CLUBS
Spangdahlem AB, Germany

Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The Eifel Times staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Movies

The following movie listings are for today through Nov. 16. Times and movies are subject to change. For more information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. For movie synopses, visit www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

◆ *The Wicker Man* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

A sheriff investigating the disappearance of a young girl from a small island discovers there's a larger mystery to solve among the island's secretive, neo-pagan community.

◆ *The Marine* (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

A group of diamond thieves on the run kidnap the wife of a recently discharged marine who goes on a chase through the South Carolina wilderness to retrieve her.



Saturday

◆ *Invincible* (PG, 7 p.m.)

When part-time bartender and full-time Eagles fan Vince Papale tries out for the team during an open call, he makes the team in a complete twist of fate.

◆ *The Marine* (9:30 p.m.)

Sunday

◆ *The Wicker Man* (4 p.m.)

◆ *The Marine* (7 p.m.)

Monday

◆ *Invincible* (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

◆ *Idlewild* (R, 7 p.m.)

A musical set in the Prohibition-era American South, where a speakeasy performer and club manager Rooster must contend with gangsters who have their eyes on the club while his piano player and partner Percival must choose between his love, Angel or his obligations to his father.

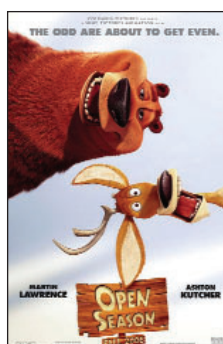
Wednesday and Thursday closed

Bitburg Castle

Today

◆ *Open Season* (PG, 7 p.m.)

Boog, a domesticated grizzly bear finds himself stranded in the woods three days before Open Season. Forced to rely on Elliot, a fast-talking mule deer, the two form an unlikely friendship and must quickly rally other forest animals if they are to form a rag-tag army against the hunters.



◆ *Crossover* (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

A naturally talented basketball player, Noah Cruise is determined to become a doctor using his basketball scholarship to UCLA pre-med, rather than succumb to the lure of former sports agent Vaughn and go for the NBA.

Saturday

◆ *Open Season* (7 p.m.)

◆ *World Trade Center* (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

In the aftermath of the World Trade Center disaster, hope is still alive. Refusing to bow down to terrorism, rescuers and families of the victims press forward.

Sunday

◆ *Open Season* (4 p.m.)

◆ *World Trade Center* (7 p.m.)

Monday and Tuesday closed

Wednesday

◆ *Material Girls* (PG, 7 p.m.)

Two wealthy sisters, both heiresses to their family's cosmetics fortune, are given a wake-up call when a scandal and ensuing investigation strip them of their wealth.

Thursday

◆ *Crossover* (7 p.m.)



People walk through a local Christmas market searching out treasures, gifts and trinkets each holiday season.

Christmas markets highlight season

Story and photo by Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The annual Weihnachtsmaerkte, or Christmas markets, are springing up in many towns throughout Germany. Almost every German mid-size town has its own unique Christmas market offering the aromas of fresh fir, Christmas baked goods, waffles, candies and sweet breads, putting everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Vendors and craftsmen set up their goods in little wooden huts or stands, usually decorated with fir branches and Christmas finery. Most of the merchandise sold at the Weihnachtsmarkt is characteristic of the season, and children's eyes light up with joy at the sight of the many treasures piled high in the booths.

A variety of decorative Christmas tree ornaments are offered, such as golden paper angels, multi-colored balls, garlands, all sorts of sweets and a large selection of handi-craft items, toys and trinkets. Gluehwein, a traditional hot spiced wine, is available at most markets.

Some Christmas markets date back six centuries. Nuernberg has the most famous Christkindelmarkt, going back to the 1690s. Its origin is thought to have been the Nikolausdult, a market mentioned as early as 1310 and held near Nuernberg's St. Michael's Church.

Also, many large and small towns in the local area offer unique markets.

The following are a few of the Weihnachtsmaerkte in Germany and other bordering countries. A list of local markets will be printed in the next edition of the Eifel Times.

◆ Nuernberg Christkindlmarkt will be open Nov. 25 through Christmas Eve.

◆ Heidelberg hosts its Weihnachtsmarkt Nov. 23 through Dec. 22 in the market square and at the Universitaetsplatz (near the university, open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

◆ Munich has several markets. The most popular Christkindlmarkt is open Nov. 25 through Christmas Eve on Maerienplatz, in front of the city hall in the center of town. Other smaller markets can be found in Schwabingen, Heidhausen, Chinesischer Turm, Neuhauser, Ramersdorf, and Pasing around the same time.

◆ Cologne hosts two markets -- the old and the new -- in the center of town. The Christmas Market in front of the Dom cathedral open Nov. 23 while the one on Alter Markt will open Nov. 25. Both markets are open through Dec. 23.

◆ Aachen has their annual super Christmas market Nov. 24 through Dec. 23.

◆ Frankfurt's Christmas market has been held for decades on the Roemerberg. The stands are set up around the Fountain of Justice, in the shadow of the Roemer, the city's ancient town hall, Nov. 23 through Dec. 22. The Roemerberg is in the center of the town, near the famous Paul's Church.

◆ Rothenberg ob der Tauber hosts its Weihnachtsmarkt Nov. 25 through Dec. 23.

◆ Wuerzburg will host their market on the Upper and Lower Markplatz Nov. 25 through Dec. 23.

◆ The famous Bad Toelz Christkindlmarkt is scheduled for Nov. 25 through Dec. 24.

Out and About

St. Martin Day parades in the Eifel:

- ◆ Kreuzgarten today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Binsfeld today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Beilingen church today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Spangdahlem Saturday at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Bickendorf church today at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Biersdorf am See, today at 6 p.m. on Kornmarkt street;
- ◆ Dudeldorf today at 6 p.m., church;
- ◆ Fliessen church today at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Koerperich church today at 5:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Philippsheim at the Kallenbachbruecke bridge Saturday at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Messerich church today at 6 p.m.;

- ◆ Irrel church today at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Pruem at the Lichthaus Wirzfeld today at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Waxweiler at the town hall today at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Stadtkyll at the Kirchplatz Saturday at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Gondorf Saturday at 6 p.m.;
- ◆ Salmtal today at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Dreis today at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Wittlich-Plein today at 6:30 p.m.;
- ◆ Sehlem today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Hetzerath today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Binsfeld today at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Klausen Saturday at 7 p.m.;

- ◆ Hupperath Saturday at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Minderlittgen Saturday at 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Arenrath Saturday 7 p.m.;
- ◆ Landscheid-Burg-Salm Saturday at 5 p.m.;
- ◆ Landscheid-Niederkail Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

Shopping on Sunday:

- ◆ Many stores within the city of Bitburg are open Sunday from 1-6 p.m. in the pedestrian zone. Entertainment will feature carnival rides, food and fun are scheduled as part of a Bitburg festival today through Monday.



Photos by Nick Anderson

Bitburg Baron football players, cheerleaders and fans celebrate the footballs team's victory during the 2006 European Football Division II Championship game Saturday. The Barons defeated the Naples Wildcats with a final score of 27-24.

'We are the champions' Bitburg Barons nab European Division II title

Staff Reports

The Bitburg Barons emerged victorious from the 2006 European Division II Football Championship game held against the Naples Wildcats Saturday.

The game in Baumholder, Germany ended with a 27-24 win after Josh Collett, Bitburg Barons quarterback, ran for an 80-yard touchdown. The run was Quarterback Collett's longest of the season.

This victory was the Barons' eighth win of the season.



(Above) Josh Collett, Bitburg Barons quarterback, looks for an open teammate to pass the football to during the 2006 European Division II Championship game. With only 3 minutes and 11 seconds left on the clock Quarterback Collett won the game with a 80 yard touchdown. He is the son of Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Collett, 38th Munitions Maintenance Group.

(Left) Jamie Watts, Bitburg Barons place kicker, kicks off the ball during the 2006 European Division II Championship game in Baumholder, Germany Saturday. Barons' 27-24 victory over the Naples Wildcats was their eighth of the season. Place kicker Watts is the son of Jeff Watt, Spangdahlem Elementary School.



Courtesy photo

Encouraging smokers to 'pack' up their habit

By Staff Sgt. Joe Canteen
52nd Aerospace Medical Squadron

Every year more than 438,000 Americans die from cigarette smoking. This number is equivalent to four jumbo jets packed with people crashing everyday of the year, killing everyone on board.

How does this affect Spangdahlem Air Base? On Spangdahlem AB, more than 28 percent of active duty members smoke, with airmen basic through senior airmen among the highest users of tobacco products. This statistic means that members of the "Greatest Air Force in the World" are, in fact, at the highest risk for colds, lung disease, cancers and death.

Nov. 16 has been declared "Great American Smokeout Day" and everyone can help to change the future of the youth, military and country. The American Cancer Society holds this annual event each year on the third Thursday in November. This year marks the 30th Great American Smokeout anniversary, a day when more than 30 million smokers nationwide will not smoke for 24 hours.

The Health and Wellness Center hosts a variety of events in support and celebration of the Great American Smokeout from Monday to Thursday. These events include:

◆ **Adopt-a-smoker:** Sabers can volunteer to help a person to stop using tobacco products during the Great American Smokeout. The volunteer and smoker sign a contract where the volunteer agrees to provide support and encouragement to the smoker.

◆ **Fun run and walk:** The HAWC hosts a 5K run and walk Nov. 16 at noon at the fitness center. The HAWC will have a booth promoting the Great American Smokeout and Tobacco Cessation.

◆ **Information booths:** The HAWC is providing booths with "adoption papers," tobacco product and tobacco cessation information at the following locations:

- ◆ Spangdahlem AB Power Zone Monday from 1-3 p.m.
- ◆ Spangdahlem AB Commissary Tuesday from 1-3 p.m.
- ◆ Skelton Fitness Center Wednesday from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the Great American Smokeout, smoker adoption papers or prevention programs, call the HAWC at 452-7385.

Sports Briefs

Bitburg youth hockey

A youth hockey clinic takes place Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Bitburg ice rink. The clinic runs through April. Children from all levels are encouraged to learn new hockey skills, as well as improve their playing level. For more information, call Lt. Col. Robert Schmitz at 0171-331-8683.

Eifel Sharks swim team

The Eifel Sharks Swim Team is looking for swimmers, coaches and volunteers for the 2006-2007 swim season. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Glenn Turnbull at 452-6105, 0656-169-5512 or e-mail eifel_sharks@yahoo.com.

Fitness Center updates

The Skelton Memorial Fitness Center is now open Mondays through Fridays from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends, holidays and down

days from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The gym floor will be closed from Nov. 17-24 for repairs. In addition, the Family Workout Room and Racquetball Court will be closed Nov. 27 to Dec. 8. For more information, call 452-6634.

Ice skating lessons

The Bitburg-American Skating School offers ice skating lessons for Team Eifel children, ages 6-11 Mondays from 6-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10-11 a.m. through March. Adult lessons take place Mondays. For more information, e-mail bitburgskatingschool@hotmail.com.

Fitness assessments

People interested in having a free fitness assessment performed should call the Spangdahlem AB Fitness Center to schedule an appointment. Assessments are broken down into six phases which include blood pressure, body composition, muscular strength, muscu-

lar endurance, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness check. The results of the test determine a person's strengths and weaknesses. For more information, call Juergen Stockemer at 452-6496.

Midnight madness

Spangdahlem-Bitburg Midnight Madness basketball events including a slam-dunk contest, a 3-point shootout and games take place Nov. 25-26. For more information, call 452-6634.

Turkey Trot

A mile and a half Turkey Trot to promote family ties takes place Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Spangdahlem Elementary School. Parents and children are invited to walk or run. The PTSA will provide trophies, prizes and healthy refreshments. Space is limited to 200 participants. Registration deadline is Wednesday. For more information or to sign up, call Lydia Johnson at 452-6881.